

“W3C is where the future of the Web is made. Our Members work together to design and standardize technologies that build on the Web’s universality. W3C creates the power to communicate, to exchange information and to write dynamic applications for anyone, anywhere, anytime, using any device.”

Tim Berners-Lee,
W3C Director and
inventor of the World Wide Web.

■ W3C Is an International Consortium

Organizations located all over the world and involved in many different fields join W3C to participate in a vendor-neutral forum for the creation of Web standards. W3C Members and a dedicated full-time staff of technical experts have earned W3C international recognition for its contributions to the Web.

W3C Members, staff, and Invited Experts work together to design technologies to ensure that the Web will continue to thrive in the future, accommodating the growing diversity of people, hardware, and software.

W3C’s global initiatives also include nurturing liaisons with over forty national, regional and international organizations around the globe. These contacts help W3C maintain a culture of global participation in the development of the World Wide Web.

■ W3C Members

Organizations join W3C to work and exchange ideas with more than 350 Members, including the world’s foremost technology companies.

W3C Members take a leadership role in the future of the Web, promote their image as innovators participating in a standards body international in mission and impact, and gain early insight into market trends. W3C Members include vendors of technology products and services, content providers, corporate users, research laboratories, standards bodies,

and governments, all of whom work to reach consensus on a direction for the Web. Adoption of W3C standards and reliance of global commerce and information exchange upon W3C Web standards continue to grow. Members have a unique opportunity to participate directly in the revolution that continues to change the way the world works.

■ W3C Team

The W3C Team includes more than sixty researchers and engineers from around the world who lead the technical Activities at W3C and manage the operations of the Consortium.

Led by the Director (Tim Berners-Lee), the Chief Operating Officer (Steve Bratt), and a Management Team, the W3C Team:
 > Provides direction to W3C by keeping up to date on new technology, market fluctuations, and the activities of related organizations;

> Promotes cooperation between Members while promoting innovation, seeking a diverse Membership, and facilitating active participation;
 > Communicates W3C results to the Members and the press, and promotes their acceptance in the Web community.

W3C is an international consortium hosted by the following organizations:

IN THE AMERICAS AND AUSTRALIA



Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence
Laboratory (CSAIL)
32 Vassar Street - Room 32-G515
Cambridge, MA 02139 USA
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IN EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA



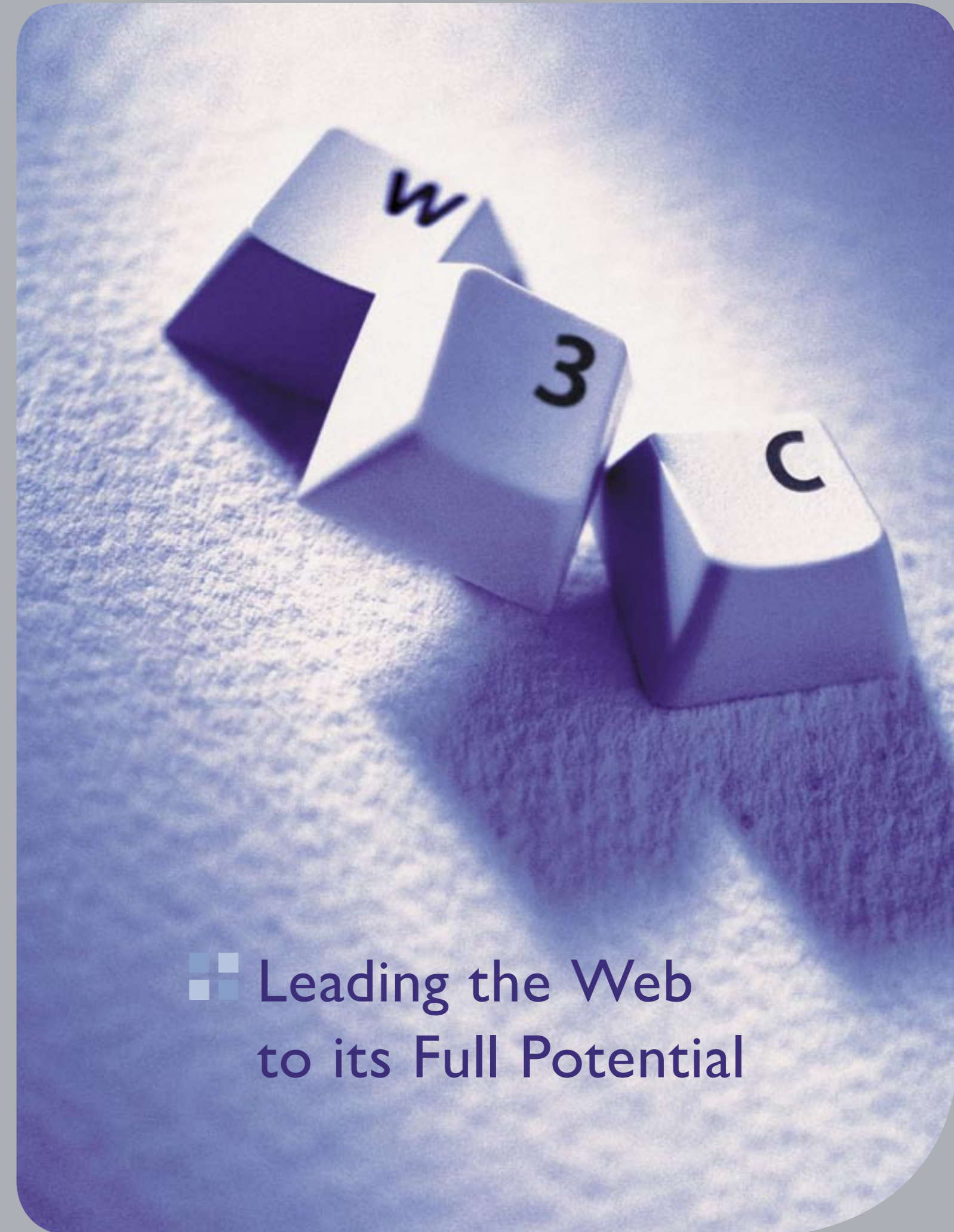
European Research Consortium for Informatics
and Mathematics (ERCIM)
2004, route des Lucioles - BP 93
06902 Sophia Antipolis Cedex France
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IN ASIA



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Keio Research Institute at SFC
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For general questions about W3C, contact your closest host or visit our Web site at <http://www.w3.org/Consortium/>
 You may also wish to contact one of our regional W3C Offices at <http://www.w3.org/Consortium/Offices/staff.html>
 For more information, please visit our Web site at <http://www.w3.org>
 For membership questions, write to membership@w3.org



■ Leading the Web
to its Full Potential

W3C Mission

W3C pursues its mission through the creation of Web standards and guidelines. In its first ten years, W3C published more than eighty W3C Recommendations.

W3C Develops Web Standards and Guidelines

W3C also engages in education and outreach, develops software, and serves as an open forum for discussion about the Web. In order for the Web to reach its full potential, the most fundamental Web technologies must be compatible with one another and allow any hardware and software used to access the Web to work together. W3C refers to this goal as "Web interoperability." By publishing open (non-proprietary) standards for Web languages and protocols, W3C seeks to avoid market fragmentation and thus Web fragmentation.

W3C Goals

In pursuit of its mission, W3C has these long-term goals for the World Wide Web.

Web for Everyone

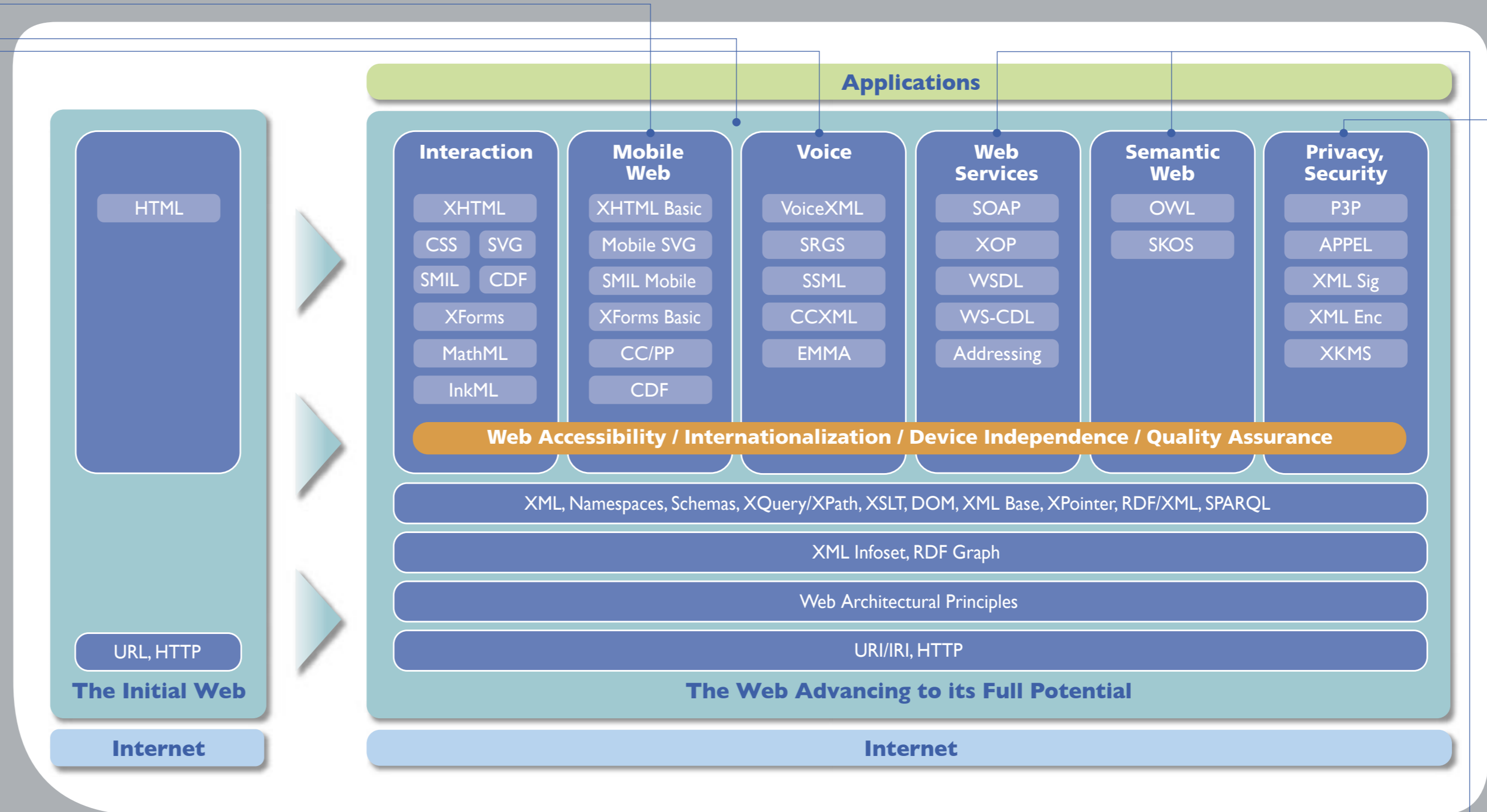
The social value of the Web is that it enables human communication, commerce, and opportunities to share knowledge. One of W3C's primary goals is to make these benefits available to all people, whatever their hardware, software, network infrastructure, native language, culture, geographical location, or physical or mental ability.

W3C continues to expand its real investment in initiatives that directly support the expansion of Web technologies and their benefits into the developing world. Work in areas like Web accessibility, internationalization, and device independence are particularly important as we work toward a Web for everyone. W3C standards, reports, and press releases are translated into multiple languages including subsets of over forty languages to date. Through W3C Offices and other efforts to broaden participation, W3C pledges to make the Web available to more people around the world.



Web on Everything

The number of different kinds of devices that can access the Web has grown immensely. Nowadays mobile phones, smart phones, personal digital assistants, interactive television systems, voice response systems, kiosks and even certain domestic appliances can all access the Web. W3C's goal is to make Web access from any kind of device as simple, easy and convenient as Web access from a desktop computer.



Knowledge Base

The Web is not merely an immense book where people can search, browse, and view information.

It is also a vast database that, if designed carefully, can allow computers to do more useful work. By developing a Web that holds information for both human and machine processing, W3C works to enable people to solve problems that would otherwise be too tedious or complex to solve.



Trust and Confidence

Ultimately, to be a useful medium for social transactions, people must be able to communicate with other parties who have earned their trust. While technology cannot guarantee trust, it should enable secure transactions with trusted parties, be they people, organizations, or services. One of the long-term goals of W3C is thus to promote technologies that enable a more collaborative environment, a Web where accountability, security, confidence and confidentiality are all possible.

